

MINUTES 6-8-2005  
TOWN OF RANSOM CANYON  
JUNE 8, 2005  
RANSOM CANYON CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES

This meeting of the Ransom Canyon City Council was called to conduct the business of the city that would normally have been done on the regular meeting day of the second Tuesday, June 14. Due to scheduling conflicts, the second Tuesday regular meeting was cancelled, but the business of the city was called and conducted in this meeting of June 8.

Mayor Robert Englund called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.. Present: David Peterson Dick Hulslander, Ron Cox and Donna Clarke. Earl Starks arrived late.

MINUTES: The Minutes of May 10 were changed to read: "Bertram Lakes water reclamation plan that *is presently piping* reclaimed water to the top of the project and *flows* all the way down to the north fork of the Brazos, which is the V-8 Ranch, Buffalo Lake and Ransom Canyon lake. *They want to build a stream-quality discharge plant.*

David Peterson had some questions about cut-and-fill regulations. Information on this topic will be gathered for the July meeting.

Dick Hulslander moved to approve the minutes with the changes, Ron Cox seconded, all approved.

Dick Hulslander moved to cancel the regular city council meeting scheduled for June 14. David Peterson seconded, all approved. The council did agree to move up the # 1 Budget work session to this date.

FINANCIALS: Financials and Claims and Demands. Dick Hulslander moved to approve, Ron Cox seconded the motion. All approved.

MAYOR'S BUDGET: Mayor Robert Englund presented his budget. Most categories had a default increase of 3%. Water Revenues have dropped this year due to increased rainfall and conservation measures. Ron Cox asked if Ransom Canyon will have enough water for the future, and the council discussed regional water availability and conservation.

The council discussed the hail damage and repair to the police cars. The Crown Victoria is totaled and the two Explorers suffered windshield and body damage. The council looked at the cars, but took no action at this time about repair to the vehicles.

The Mayor's budget added expense to upgrade two part-time employees to full time.

The Mayor's budget called for a \$563,771 savings transfer, \$107,500 budgeted for savings, \$12,000 for repair to the dam, \$25,000 for a utility truck, \$70K to repair the old sewer plant, and \$99,000 repair to the water tanks. The budget called for \$423,500 expense on the water tank.

DEPARTMENT REQUESTS: The council discussed a few of the department expense requests. Administration asked for some changes to the holiday schedule, and to scheduled benefits for permanent part time employees. There was also a request for the city to offer retiree medical health insurance that is offered through TML. Under TML's contract, the loss experience of the retirees would not count against the city's experience factor, and the retirees would pay their own premiums directly to TML. Dick Hulslander commented that employee benefits were expensive, and presented the city with a slippery slope situation.

The council considered the requests of the operations and police department. The fire department asked for new sirens. Ransom Canyon would probably not qualify for grants for these items because our poverty level is below 50%, which is the qualifying number.

The council agreed to meet in work session for the budget on June 14.

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**BUILDING CONTROL COMMITTEE** David Peterson reported on the June 6 meeting of the committee. They approved two new homes, one remodel, and one additional home after cut and fill plans were submitted. One request for a carport was denied because access would have been via a concrete city drainage easement. Two remodel projects were returned with requests for more information.

**SEAL COAT BIDS.** The council approved project P1 with an award to Zahn Paving for \$42888 with bond \$2860 (as amended to bond only project P1.) Project P2 was not approved. This action was taken on a motion from Earl Starks, second from Dick Hulslander.

**OPERATIONS REPORT:** Harold Needham reported that the recycle center needed to be redesigned as a fenced, manned center. The council will tour the facility before the next council budget work session and they will also go on a field trip with Harold to view other cities' solutions to trash collection facilities.

**POLICE REPORT;** Mowing letters will go out soon. Complaints have been received about the city-owned property on unplatted area behind homes on Canyon View Drive. East Lake Shore Drive has been striped and new signage is up. 72 boats have been registered so far. Lubbock City Animal Shelter will not receive animals without payment of \$10-25. This is an old contract that the new manager has determined to enforce. Donna Clarke will research the situation and report back to the council.

**FIRE REPORT:** Fire Chief Rand McPherson reported no fire calls, 3 medical calls last month. The siren was set off for the May 12 tornado. The siren sound is a solid tone from the location on the Party Island. Many people on top and on the East side of Town did not hear the siren. There were no fire vehicles out until after the storm.

The LaFrance was picked up by Ferrara Saturday June 4 and Rand expects it to be back within the month. The engine had a hole in the plumbing works. There is a hole in the fitting between the valve pump and the tank. It is "downstream" so it can't be turned off. It is rusted through. This is an easy fix, but the problem is getting to it. The engine can be shipped to Houston for repair. Without repair the engine could not be used as a tanker. It would only function as a pumper. It will not hold water unless it is repaired.

Ferrara will take it to Houston, repair it, pump test and recertify it for \$4500. They will check the pump and replace it, fix gaskets, lube and grease it. The time frame is less than a week. Rand will also get an estimate on replacing the tank while the engine is down. This is a 30-year-old truck. We have had the truck 4 years, but this part is 30 years old. The estimate for a new poly tank is about \$10,000. The recommendation was to leave this stainless steel tank alone. It doesn't leak, and it is in good shape for its age.

**LIBRARY:** Summer reading program will begin June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION:** Earl Starks moved to set up a fiduciary fund for the POA Party House construction project. Ron Cox seconded the motion, all approved of the motion except Dick Hulslander, who abstained.

This fund will be managed by the Mayor, per motion from Donna Clarke, seconded from Earl Starks. All approved.

There will be a work session to review and tour the recycling area prior to the budget work session that is scheduled for June 14. This meeting will convene at City Hall at 5:30, will tour the recycle area, then will convene in budget work session at the Ransom Canyon Fire Station. Plot plans of the area will be available.

**ADJOURN:** Dick Hulslander moved to adjourn, Ron Cox seconded, all approved.

Melissa Verett  
City Administrator

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